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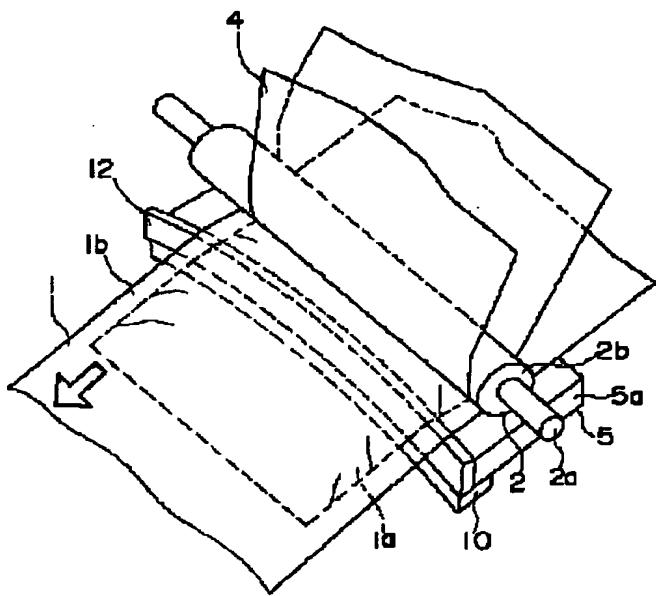
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APPLICANT : MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORP;

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TITLE : THERMAL TRANSFER PRINTER



ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To suppress the generation of a looseness in an ink sheet by enabling a guide part to be deformed to an ink sheet side by a heat generated by a heat generating resistance element.

SOLUTION: A retaining part 10 and a guide part 12 are deformed by deflection as the coefficient of linear expansion of the guide part 12 is that of the retaining part 10. During printing a photographic image, the photographic image printing part 1a of an ink sheet 1 to be exposed to a thermal effect by a heat- generating resistance is thermally expanded, and a significant tensional unbalance is generated at a boundary with a non-photographic image printing part 1b not thermally expanded, so that the part 1a tends to be easily deflected. In this case, however, the guide part 12 is deformed by deflection to the ink sheet 1 side, and therefore, the part 1a of the ink sheet 1 is expanded in the width direction of the ink sheet by the deformation of the guide part 12. Consequently, the ink sheet 1 is uniformly tense as a whole and the generation of creases over the ink sheet 1 is suppressed.

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